

MARICOPA COUNTY HEALTH CODE

CHAPTER II

SEWAGE AND WASTES

SECTION 1

GENERAL

REGULATION 1. Definitions

- a. "Ashes" means any residue other than salvage from the burning of any combustible material.
- b. "Certified water quality management plan" means a plan prepared by the designated water quality management planning agency pursuant to Section 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (P.L. 92-500) as amended by the Clean Water Act of 1977 (P.L. 92-217), adopted by the Water Quality Control Council, and certified by the Governor.
- c. "Composting" means the biochemical degradation of organic materials to a stable, sanitary, nuisance-free, humus-like material.
- d. "Designated management agency" means those entities designated in the certified water quality management plans to manage sewerage systems and sewage treatment works in respective areas.
- e. "Disposal system" or "sewage works" means any system for the disposal of sewage and other wastes, either by surface or underground methods, including, but not limited to, individual sewage disposal systems, waste treatment works, privies, chemical toilets, incinerator toilets or privies, and public or franchised sewerage systems and wastewater reclamation systems.
- f. "Effluent" means wastewater that has completed its passage through a wastewater treatment plant.
- g. "Engineer" means the person or firm which designed the sewage works and conceived, developed, executed, or supervised the preparation of the plan documents.
- h. "Facility plan" means the plans, specifications, and estimates for proposed sewerage systems and sewage treatment works prepared pursuant to Sections 201 and 203 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (P.L. 92-500) as amended by the Clean Water Act of 1977 (P.L. 92-217), and submitted to the Department by and for a designated management agency.
- i. "Garbage" means swill and any accumulation of animal, vegetable and other matter that attends the preparation, handling, consumption, storage or decay of plant and animal matter including meats, fish, fowl, birds, fruit, vegetable or dairy products and the waste wrappers or containers thereof.

- j. "General plan" means a plan prepared by a responsible government entity.
- k. "Hazardous waste" means any waste so defined by the provisions of A.A.C. Title 18, Chapter 8, Article 2.
- l. "Human excreta" means human fecal and urinary discharges and includes any waste containing such material.
- m. "Industrial waste" means the liquid, gaseous, or solid wastes or combinations produced thereof as a result of any industrial operation.
- n. "Manure" shall mean animal excreta, including cleanings from barns, stables, corrals, pens, or conveyances used for stabling, transporting, or penning of animals or fowl.
- o. "Plan documents" means reports, proposals, preliminary plans, survey and basis of design data, general and detail construction plans, profiles, specifications, and all other information pertaining to sewage works planning.
- p. "Pollution" means such contamination, or other alteration of the physical, chemical, or biological properties of any waters of the County, including change in temperature, taste, color, turbidity, or odor of the waters, or such discharge of any liquid, gaseous, solid, radioactive, or other substance into any waters of the County which will or is likely to create a public nuisance or render such waters harmful, detrimental, or injurious to public health, safety, or welfare, or to domestic, agricultural, commercial, industrial, recreational, or other beneficial uses, or to livestock, wild animals, birds, fish, or other aquatic life.
- q. "Public sewer" means a sewer, located in a road, street, alley, easement, or right-of-way, used to convey sewage to community treatment and disposal facilities.
- r. "Refuse" shall mean all putrescible and nonputrescible solid and semisolid wastes, including garbage, rubbish, ashes, manure, street cleanings, dead animals, abandoned automobiles, and industrial wastes, but not human excreta or sewage.
- s. "Rubbish" shall mean nonputrescible solid wastes excluding ashes, consisting of both combustible and noncombustible wastes, such as paper, cardboard, waste metal, tin cans, yard clippings, wood, glass, bedding, crockery, and similar materials.
- t. "Service Area" means that geographic region specified for a designated management agency by the applicable certified water quality management plan or by a subsequent facility plan.
- u. "Sewage" means the wastes from toilets, baths, sinks, lavatories, laundries, and other plumbing fixtures in residences, institutions, public and business buildings, mobile homes, watercraft, and other places of human habitation, employment or recreation.

- v. "Sewerage system" means the pipeline or conduits, pumping stations, force mains, and all other structures, devices, appurtenances, and facilities used for collecting, or conducting wastes to a point of treatment and disposal.
- w. A "dump" shall mean a place where refuse is disposed of on or in the ground in a manner other than that described in these regulations for a sanitary landfill.
- x. "Treatment works" shall mean any treatment plant, disposal system, lagoon, or other works used for the purpose of treating, stabilizing, holding, or disposing of sewage or industrial wastes.
- y. "Wastes" means sewage, industrial wastes, and all other liquid, gaseous, solid, radioactive, or other substances which may pollute or tend to pollute any waters of the County. The term "wastes" does not include agricultural irrigation and drainage waters, for which water quality standards shall have been established by the state.
- z. "Wastewater" means sewage, and waterborne industrial wastes.
- aa. "Wastewater Reclamation or Reuse System" means the wastewater treatment works and the entire Reuse/Reclamation and Distribution System for the use of reclaimed wastewater.
- bb. "Waters of the County" means all waters within the jurisdiction of this County including all streams, perennial or intermittent, lakes, ponds, impounding reservoirs, marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, irrigation systems, drainage systems, and all other bodies or accumulation of water, surface and underground, natural or artificial, public or private, situated wholly or partly within or bordering upon the County.

REGULATION 2. General Provisions

- a. All sewage, refuse, human excreta, and other wastes shall be kept, transported, treated, disposed of, or reclaimed by a method or methods which are in compliance with these regulations, and at sites which are approved by the Department.
 - (1) The owner, agent or occupant responsible for the sanitary condition of any place, premises, business establishment or industry shall handle, store and dispose of all refuse accumulated there by approved methods; and any person handling, storing, transporting or disposing of garbage and rubbish or refuse shall do so in such a manner and by such means that it shall not be prejudicial to life or health for any reason including, but not limited to, the breeding of insects or harboring of rodents or the pollution of water. All hazardous waste shall, where necessary, be rendered harmless prior to collection and disposal.
- b. No sewage, reclaimed wastewater, refuse, human excreta or other wastes shall be permitted in or placed or deposited into any of the water, or upon or under any of the lands, of the County, except as approved by the Department.

- c. The owner of each device, method, or system used for the storage, collection, transportation and disposal of any waste material shall be responsible for the proper construction, maintenance, and operation of the facilities.
- d. The design and location of any system of wastes storage, collection, transportation, or disposal shall take into consideration proximity to wells or other sources of water supply, topography, water table, soil characteristics, available area, etc., and shall provide for adequate handling, treatment and disposal facilities for the amount and nature of waste material anticipated.
- e. No new refuse disposal site shall be established or operated, or any method for the disposal of refuse employed without approval and such approval shall be obtained prior to the start of operation.
- f. No new open refuse dump, dumpsite or dumping area shall be started or maintained, nor shall any such refuse disposal operation be reinstituted after having once been discontinued.
- g. No person shall install, permit to be installed, or maintain a cross connection, submerged inlet or similar connection between any part of a waste disposal or wastewater reclamation system and a potable water supply, in such manner that sewage, waste, or reclaimed wastewater may enter into or otherwise contaminate, the potable water supply.
- h. Minimum design guidelines for sewage systems, including septic tank systems, and treatment works are found in the engineering bulletins of the Department, and Arizona Departments of Health Services and Environmental Quality.
- i. No privy contents, drainage from a building, or the effluent from any waste treatment device shall be discharged into any well, either abandoned, or constructed for that purpose, that is carried to such a depth as to penetrate water bearing strata.
- j. No privy contents, drainage from a building, or the effluent from any waste treatment device shall be discharged into any crevice, sinkhole, or other opening, either natural or artificial, or in a rock formation which will or may permit the pollution or contamination of ground water.
- k. No boat, houseboat, or watercraft of any type, shall be equipped with a marine toilet so constructed and operated as to discharge any sewage directly or indirectly into the waters of the County, nor shall any container of sewage be placed, left, discharged, or caused to be placed, left, or discharged in or near any waters of the County by any person at any time.
- l. Watercraft with marine toilets so constructed as to permit sewage to be discharged directly into the waters of the County shall be locked and sealed to prevent usage. Chemical or other type marine toilets with approved type storage containers shall be permitted where adequate, dockside disposal facilities are provided.

- m. Dockside Facilities

- (1) Every dock servicing watercraft shall have, conveniently located thereto, approved type toilet facilities for men and for women.
 - (2) Every dock servicing watercraft equipped with toilets shall provide approved sanitary facilities at dockside for the disposal of sewage from watercraft toilets.
- n. The Health Officer shall be permitted to make and he shall make such inspections of any place, premises, container, process, equipment or vehicle used for the collection, storage, transportation, treatment, disposal or reclamation of sewage, industrial wastes or refuse as are necessary to insure compliance with these regulations.
- o. Discontinued facilities.
- (1) Every cesspool, septic tank and seepage pit and waste treatment facility which has been abandoned or has been discontinued otherwise from further use or to which no waste or soil pipe from a plumbing fixture is connected, shall have the sewage removed therefrom and be completely filled with the earth, sand, gravel, concrete or other approved material.
 - (2) The top cover or arch over the cesspool, septic tank, seepage pit or waste treatment facility shall be removed before filling and the cesspool, septic tank or seepage pit shall be filled to the level of the top of the ground.
 - (3) No person owning or controlling any cesspool, septic tank, or seepage pit on the premises of such person or in that portion of any public street, alley or other public property abutting such premises, shall fail, refuse or neglect to comply with the provisions of this Section or upon receipt of notice so to comply from the department having jurisdiction.
 - (4) Where disposal facilities are abandoned consequent to connecting any premises with the public sewer, the permittee making the connection shall fill all abandoned facilities as required by the administrative authority within thirty (30) days from the time of connecting to the public sewer.
 - (5) Earth Pit Privies. Whenever any earthpit privy is discontinued, the pit shall be filled in and covered as outlined in Engineering Bulletin Number 2.
 - (6) Other facilities. Whenever any other type of privy, chemical toilet, method or system for storage or disposal of human excreta is discontinued, all excreta remaining shall be collected and disposed of in accordance with this article. All boxes, cans, and other receptacles from any discontinued privy, chemical toilet, method or system shall be disposed of in a manner that does not endanger the public health or create a nuisance.

REGULATION 3. Enforcement

Any person who violates any provision of this chapter is subject to the penalties provided by law.

REGULATION 4. Permit Required

No waste treatment works or wastewater reclamation system shall be operated or maintained in Maricopa County without a permit in force by the Department.